



OPSEC

OPERATIONS SECURITY

OPSEC AS A METHODOLOGY WAS DEVELOPED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR, WHEN ADMIRAL ULYSSES SHARP, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, PACIFIC, ESTABLISHED THE "PURPLE DRAGON" TEAM IN ORDER TO DETERMINE HOW THE ENEMY WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN ADVANCED INFORMATION ON MILITARY OPERATIONS.

THE TEAM FOUND THAT THE ENEMY WAS BEING FED INFORMATION FROM SEEMINGLY HARMLESS AREAS. WHEN THIS INFORMATION WAS PUT SIDE-BY-SIDE THE ENEMY WAS ABLE TO DETERMINE DETAILS ABOUT UPCOMING OPERATIONS.

THE TEAM REALIZED THAT CURRENT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY MEASURES ALONE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT. THEY CONCEIVED OF AND UTILIZED THE METHODOLOGY OF "THINKING LIKE THE WOLF", OR LOOKING AT YOUR OWN ORGANIZATION FROM AN ADVERSARIAL VIEWPOINT.

WHEN DEVELOPING AND RECOMMENDING CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO THEIR COMMAND, THEY THEN COINED THE TERM "**OPERATIONS SECURITY**"

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